

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PRETOR 04953 010857Z

17

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W
----- 045989

O P 010743Z NOV 76
FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6018
USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

C O N F I D E N T I A L PRETORIA 4953

EXDIS

GENEVA FOR SCHAUFEELE

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: PFOR, RH
SUBJECT: GENEVA TALKS

1. DURING PAST FORTY-EIGHT HOURS HAROLD HAWKINS HAS COME TO SEE ME TWICE TO "FILL ME IN ON WHAT IS HAPPENING IN GENEVA." FIRST VISIT COVERED STRAIGHT-FORWARD ACCOUNT OF OPENING SESSION OF TALKS ON THURSDAY AND FIRST ROUND OF STATEMENTS ON FRIDAY. HE DID SAY, HOWEVER, THAT GAYLARD HAD EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT THE NATIONALISTS WERE THREATENING TO WALK OUT IF BRITISH DID NOT ASSUME FULL CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY. BRITISH ON OTHER HAND WERE NOT SEEKING SMITH'S ADVISE AND NOT FOLLOWING IT WHEN GIVEN. WHEN I ASKED HIM WHAT HE MEANT, HAWKINS REPLIED THAT HMG UNWILLING TO TREAT GOR AS GOVERNMENT BUT ONLY AS ONE OF FIVE PARTIES WITH THE RESULT THAT HMG BEING INCREASINGLY DRAWN INTO NEGOTIATIONS INSTEAD OF SITTING BACK AND TELLING THE TWO SIDES TO NEGOTIATE. IN SECOND VISIT LAST NIGHT HE INDICATED MORE CATEGORICALLY THAT THINGS WERE NOT GOING WELL IN GENEVA EITHER WITH THE BRITISH OR THE NATIONALISTS AND SMITH WOULD BE
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 PRETOR 04953 010857Z

RETURNING TO SALISBURY ON WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 3.

2. HAWKINS SAID THAT SMITH HAD MET WITH RICHARDS FOR HALF HOUR ON SATURDAY NIGHT. SMITH SEES LITTLE CHANCE OF ARRIVING AT A SATISFACTORY SOLUTION GIVEN NATIONALIST ATTITUDES TOWARD HIS GOVERNMENT AND DIVISIONS AMONG THEMSELVES. BRITISH TREATMENT IS ALSO "CONTEMPTUOUS AND HUMILIATING." FURTHERMORE, HAWKINS NOTED, THEY HAVE INFORMATION THAT THE BRITISH ARE READY TO CAVE ON ALL POINTS INSISTED UPON BY THE NATIONALISTS.

3. SINCE TALKS ARE LIKELY TO DRAG ON FOR LONG TIME, HAWKINS CONTINUED, SMITH HAS DECIDED TO REMAIN IN GENEVA UNTIL WEDNESDAY AND THEN RETURN TO SALISBURY. HE WILL LEAVE A FEW MEMBERS OF HIS DELEGATION BEHIND TO SERVE AS POINT OF CONTACT WHILE RICHARDS TRIES TO WORK SOMETHING OUT WITH NATIONALISTS. HAWKINS OBSERVED THAT IT WILL BE "VERY DIFFICULT" TO GET SMITH TO RETURN TO GENEVA UNLESS RICHARDS COMES UP WITH SOMETHING REASONABLE.

4. HAWKINS THEN REFERRED TO "HELPFUL" SPEECH MADE BY PM VORSTER AT NATIONAL PARTY MEETING IN HIS CONSTITUENCY AT NIGEL, TRANSVAAL SATURDAY NIGHT. TEXT OF HIS REMARKS IS NOT AVAILABLE BUT NEWSPAPER ACCOUNTS HAVE HIM WARNING THAT FUTURE OF RHODESIA DEPENDED ON A SETTLEMENT WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE FIVE-POINT PROPOSAL. A REFUSAL TO DEBATE THE PROPOSALS OR ANY ONE-SIDED ATTEMPT TO SET THEM ASIDE WOULD RESULT IN SERIOUS PROBLEMS FOR SOUTHERN AFRICA AND THE WORLD. A GREAT RESPONSIBILITY RESTED ON UK, US AND FRONT-LINE PRESIDENTS TO ENSURE A PEACEFUL SOLUTION WAS FOUND. FOR THIS REASON VORSTER SAID HE WAS PLEASED THAT SECRETARY HAD SENT SCHAUFLE TO GENEVA WHERE HE COULD HELP IN THE DELICATE NEGOTIATION.

5. COMMENT: I HAVE NO WAY OF KNOWING HOW SERIOUS ARE SMITH'S INTENTIONS TO LEAVE GENEVA ON WEDNESDAY. TIMING AND CONTENT OF HAWKINS' DOWNBEAT DESCRIPTION OF TALKS SUGGESTS HIS APPROACH TO ME DESIGNED TO BE FED BACK TO WASHINGTON IN ORDER TO STIMULATE LARGER US ROLE IN GENEVA TO COUNTER-BALANCE WHAT IS REGARDED BY RHODESIANS AS CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 PRETOR 04953 010857Z

UNHELPLEFUL BRITISH STANCE.
BOWDLER

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, MEETING PROCEEDINGS, CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION, NEGOTIATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 01 NOV 1976
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: BoyleJA
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976PRETOR04953
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X1
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760406-0592
From: PRETORIA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761193/aaaaddcj.tel
Line Count: 109
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: BoyleJA
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 11 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <11 MAY 2004 by woolflhd>; APPROVED <13 SEP 2004 by BoyleJA>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GENEVA TALKS
TAGS: PFOR, RH, UK, SF, (HAWKINS, HAROLD)
To: STATE GENEVA
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006